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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In re Application of: Paul M. Tsou, M.D.

Serial No.: 10/749,457

Filing Date: December 31, 2003

Title: Minimal Access Apparatus for Endoscopic Spinal Surgery

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: unknown

Los Angeles, California

April 11, 2005

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10*

(Express Mail label number is mandatory.)

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The PTO did not receive the following
listed items(s) Some PPLs

Dear Sir:

Applicant, Paul M. Tsou, M.D., submits herewith a list, and corresponding copies, of patents of which he is aware that he believes may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), nor as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, nor that no other material

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information exists (37 C.F.R. 1.97(h)). The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

The person supplying this information is the below-signed practitioner and the information supplied herein is from his files.

Without prejudice or implication, Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to:

United States Patents Nos.:

	None listed.	
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Foreign Patent Documents:

	None listed.	
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Non-Patent Documents:

1	"A Prospective, Randomized Study Comparing the Results of Open discectomy with Those of Video-Assisted Arthroscopic Microdiscectomy," Hermantin <i>et al.</i> , <i>The Journal Of Bone And Joint Surgery</i> , vol. 81-A, No. 7, July, 1999 , pp. 958-965.	
2	"Posterolateral Endoscopic Excision for Lumbar Disc Herniation," Yeung <i>et al.</i> , <i>Spine</i> , vol. 27, No. 7, 2002 , pp. 722-730.	
3	"Transforaminal endoscopic decompression for radiculopathy secondary to intracanal noncontained lumbar disc herniations: outcome and technique," Tsou <i>et al.</i> , <i>The Spine Journal</i> , 2, 2002 , pp. 41-48.	
4	"Posterolateral percutaneous endoscopic lumbar discectomy," Tsou, <i>Operative Techniques in Orthopaedics</i> , vol. 13, No. 3, July, 2003 , pp. 207-213.	
5	"Posterolateral Transforaminal Selective Endoscopic Discectomy and Thermal Annuloplasty for Chronic Lumbar Discogenic Pain: A Minimal Access Visualized Intradiscal Surgical Procedure," Tsou, <i>et al.</i> , <i>The Spine Journal</i> , vol. 4, No. 5, 2004 , pp. 564-573.	

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

DATE April 11, 2005


SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No. 40174

Finn T. Simmens

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2049 Century Park East, Suite 1080
Los Angeles, CA 90067



April 11, 2005				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/749,457
				Filing Date	December 31, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Tsou
				Group Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	unknown
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	455770.15022

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code ² (If known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
				none listed		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
			none listed			

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	AUTHOR, title, publication, date, page, vol., issue, no., publisher, city, country.	T ⁶
	1	"A Prospective, Randomized Study Comparing the Results of Open discectomy with Those of Video-Assisted Arthroscopic Microdiscectomy," Hermantin <i>et al.</i> , <i>The Journal Of Bone And Joint Surgery</i> , vol. 81-A, No. 7, July, 1999 , pp. 958-965.	
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



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April 11, 2005

Docket No. 15022

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Inventor(s): Paul M. Tsou, M.D.
Title: Minimal Access Apparatus for Endoscopic Spinal Surgery
Serial No.: 10/749,457
Filing Date: December 31, 2003
Enclosures: 1. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pp.);
2. IDS in table format (1 p.);
3. Copies of items listed in IDS (5 publications);
4. Check for \$180.00 for submission of IDS; and
5. return post card.

Dear Sir:

Please file the enclosed papers and date-stamp and return the post card to our offices. The Office is authorized to charge underpayments and credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 01-2224.

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